

Chapter XIII -- Managed State Game and Wildlife Areas

13.1 Managed state game areas and wildlife areas listed.

Sec. 13.1. The managed state game areas and wildlife areas are the Allegan state game area (Highbanks unit, Fennville farm, Ottawa marsh, and Bravo Unit) - Allegan county; Crow Island state game area (east and west units) - Saginaw and Bay counties; Fish Point wildlife area - Tuscola county; Grand Haven state game area - Ottawa county; Lapeer state game area - Lapeer county; Maple river state game area (wetlands wildlife management units near highway US-27) - Gratiot county; Munuscong wildlife area - Chippewa county; Muskegon state game area - Muskegon county; Nayanquing Point wildlife area - Bay county; Pointe Mouillee state game area - Wayne and Monroe counties; Portage marsh - Delta county; Shiawassee river state game area - Saginaw county; St. Clair flats wildlife area (Harsens Island unit, Dickinson Island unit and St. John's marsh unit) - St. Clair county; Sturgeon river sloughs wildlife area and Baraga plains wildlife area - Houghton and Baraga counties, and Wigwam Bay wildlife area (east unit) - Arenac county.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Am. 14, 1996, Eff. Sept. 1, 1996; Am. 13, 2005, Eff. July 8, 2005.

13.2 Unlawful acts.

Sec. 13.2. A person shall not do any of the following on any managed state game or wildlife area listed in section 13.1:

(1) Enter any lands or waters posted "Wildlife Refuge - Do Not Enter" without proper written permission of the management unit supervisor or their representative.

(2) Construct a shooting pit or permanent blind.

(3) Hunt in or occupy any hunting zone, area, post, or blind, other than designated on the permit issued to the person by the department, or hunt beyond such distance as may be specified for that blind or post, except in the Ottawa Marsh unit of the Allegan State Game Area.

(4) Hunt or shoot from any dike, trail, safety zone, or retrieving zone posted against such use.

(5) Hunt in designated retriever dog zones or areas without a retrieving-type dog with an individual or party.

(6) Leave the area without returning their hunting permit and submitting all game taken for examination, unless directed to do otherwise by a posted sign or by instructions printed on their permit to hunt, except in the Ottawa Marsh unit of the Allegan State Game Area. Check-in times will be posted on area signs, indicated on the hunting map for each area or on the hunting permit issued.

(7) Trap on any area posted "State Game Area - Hunting by Permit Only" or "Wildlife Refuge - Do Not Enter" in zones 2 and 3 without a permit from the management unit supervisor or their representative.

(8) Use dogs for hunting or retrieving in areas posted against such use.

(9) Possess or fire from a shotgun more than 15 shells or 3 times the daily duck bag limit in any hunting zones posted at the area headquarters "Hunting Zone Shell Limit," as designated by the management unit supervisor or their representative.

(10) Possess or fire from a shotgun during the duck season shells with shot size greater than no. 1 in any hunting zones posted at the area headquarters "Hunting Zone Shot Size Limit," as designated by the management unit supervisor or their representative.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Am. 14, 1996, Eff. Sept. 1, 1996; Am. 9, 1998, Eff. Sept. 1, 1998; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sept. 1, 1999; Am. 15, 2000, Eff. Sept. 1, 2000; Am. 13, 2005, Eff. July 8, 2005.

13.3 Fish Point wildlife area; Nayanquing Point wildlife area; Pointe Mouillee state game area; Shiawassee river state game area; St. Clair flats wildlife area (Harsens island unit); additional rules.

Sec. 13.3. On those portions of the Fish Point wildlife area, Nayanquing Point wildlife area, Pointe Mouillee state game area, Shiawassee river state game area, and St. Clair flats wildlife area (Harsens island unit) posted "State Game Area -Hunting By Permit Only," the following rules shall apply:

(1) A person shall not take an animal except in the location(s) and within the time period specified on the hunter's permit.

(2) No person may possess or fire from a shotgun more than 25 shot shells during any hunting period, except as otherwise specifically provided in this order.

(3) Hunting of any animal is prohibited from September 1 to the opening of the general waterfowl season unless authorized by the director.

(4) Persons issued hunting permits are restricted to the lawful taking of waterfowl and small game except those permits issued specifically for bow and arrow or firearm deer hunting.

(5) Hunting shall be by reservation only on those days and units designated and published by the area manager. The area manager shall determine the number of reserved hunting permits to be issued. Applicants may not apply for more permits than authorized per hunter. The hunting reservation is not transferable from the original applicant to any other person.

(6) To hunt together as a party in a party permit area, all members of a group must register together prior to the drawing, except that a single hunter not participating in the drawing may join a party of 2 or 3 if that hunter's completed registration card is filed in the check station at the time of the drawing and the maximum party size is not exceeded. Party members must hunt together in their assigned permit area.

(7) During a day designated and published by the area manager as "Youth Day(s)," hunting parties made up of at least 1 youth, 10 to 16 years old, accompanied by 1 or 2 parents, guardians, or other persons authorized by the parent or guardian who is 18 years of age or older, with appropriate licenses and stamps, shall be given first priority for hunting permits.

(8) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Am. 14, 1991, Eff. Sept. 1, 1991; Am. 17, 1993, Eff. Sept. 1, 1993; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Am. 13, 1998, Eff. Sept. 1, 1998; Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sept. 11, 2004; Am. 16, 2006, Eff. Aug. 11, 2006.

13.3a Pointe Mouillee state game area; additional rule.

Sec. 13.3a. On those portions of the Pointe Mouillee state game area located in sections 23 to 26, T5S R10E; sections 30 to 31, T5S R11E; and sections 1 to 2, and 11 to 12, T6S R10E, Monroe and Wayne counties, it is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History Note: Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sept. 11, 2004.

13.4 Crow Island state game area; additional rule.

Sec. 13.4. On those portions of the Crow Island state game area located in sections 4 to 5, T12N R5E; sections 7 to 9, 16 to 22, 27 to 30, and 32 to 33, T13N R5E, Bay and Saginaw counties, it is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History Note: Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sept. 11, 2004

13.5 Maple river state game area; additional rule.

Sec. 13.5. On those portions of the wetland wildlife management units of the Maple river state game Area located in section 30, T9N R1W; and sections 20 to 23, and 25 to 29, T9N R2W, Gratiot county, it is unlawful to use or

possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History Note: Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sept. 11, 2004

13.6 Muskegon county wastewater system; additional rules.

Sec. 13.6. The following rules and regulations apply to managed hunting on the leased lands of the Muskegon county wastewater system, being sections 1, 2, 10 to 14, 23, and 24, T10N R15W; sections 6 to 8, 17 to 20, 29 to 32, T10N R14W, Muskegon county, as posted:

(1) Hunting will be authorized only for waterfowl (ducks and geese) from morning opening hour to 2:00 p.m. on weekdays. On Saturdays and Sundays, hunts will take place from the morning opening hour to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to closing hour.

(2) A person hunting shall have:

(a) Personal identification.

(b) A permit issued by the department daily at the Muskegon state game area headquarters.

(3) Controls:

(a) Only hunters with official permits will be admitted to the wastewater property or permitted to remain in the hunting area. Driving on the wastewater property is restricted to the most direct route to and from official parking areas. Other driving will require a permit from the county wastewater headquarters.

(b) Hunters shall only park in parking areas assigned at the drawings.

(c) Hunters shall not hunt outside of their assigned hunting zone, area, blind, or post. Hunters shall not possess loaded firearms or discharge firearms anywhere except from their assigned zone, area, blind, or post.

(d) All hunters must report to the Muskegon state game area check station to return tags and have game checked within 1 hour following the close of shooting.

(e) All hunters are limited to 15 shells with shot size no larger than No. BBB.

(f) Hunters and their permits and firearms will be subject to inspection by department or Muskegon county personnel.

(4) During a day designated and published by the area manager as "Youth Day(s)," hunting parties made up of at least 1 youth, 10 to 16 years old, accompanied by 1 or 2 parents, guardians, or other persons authorized by the parent or guardian who is 18 years of age or older, with appropriate licenses and stamps, shall be given first priority for hunting permits.

(5) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Am. 10, 1992, Eff. Sept. 1, 1992; Am. 17, 1993, Eff. Sept. 1, 1993; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Am. 13, 1998, Eff. Sept. 1, 1998; Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sept. 11, 2004; Am. 16, 2006, Eff. Aug. 11, 2006.

13.7 St. John's marsh; additional rules.

Sec. 13.7. Within the St. John's marsh unit, St. Clair county, being that portion of state-owned lands and waters lying in sections 19, 30, and 31, T3N R16E; sections 24, 25, 35, and 36, T3N R15E; and sections 1 and 2, T2N R15E:

(1) Unless authorized by the director, hunting of all wildlife is prohibited west of the old Detroit united railway dike from September 1 until the opening of the general waterfowl season, except for bow and arrow and firearm deer hunting.

(2) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989; Am. 17, 1993, Eff. Sept. 1, 1993; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sept. 1, 1999; Am. 11, 2002, Eff. Sept. 1, 2002; Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sept. 11, 2004.

13.8 Windsor township mini-game area; rules.

Sec. 13.8. The following rules are in effect for the Windsor township mini-game area being all that part lying west of the right-of-way of I-96, north of consumers power company right-of-way and east of Canal road, section 3, north half of the section lying south and east of proposed I-69 right-of-way except grand trunk and western railroad right-of-way, a parcel described as beginning at a point 1,000 feet east of the intersection of Billwood road and Crowner road, thence north 550 feet, west 400 feet, north 400 feet, west to Crowner road, north along Crowner road to the intersection with the grand trunk and western railroad right-of-way, northeast along grand trunk and western railroad right-of-way to the south line of consumers power company right-of-way, east along south line of consumers power company right-of-way to the intersection with Harris road, if extended, south and west along Harris road to the intersection with Billwood highway, west along Billwood highway to the point of beginning, section 4, T3N R3W, in Eaton county:

(1) Firearm hunting (shotgun only) is permitted only on lands lying north of the power line. Department personnel will post "safe hunting zones" which inform the hunter that it is illegal to discharge a firearm within 450 feet of a building or residence.

(2) Permitted over the entirety: archery hunting, trapping, and fishing.

(3) Walk-in access is permitted over the entirety.

(4) Signs containing the foregoing regulations shall be posted in such manner and at such locations as will provide reasonable notice of same to the public.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989.

13.9 Shiawassee River state game area; rules.

Sec. 13.9. The following rules are established on those portions of the Shiawassee river state game area, Saginaw county, posted "State Game Area - Hunting by Permit Only" being all or portions of sections 13 to 16, 21 to 29, 32 to 35, T11N R3E; sections 2 to 4, 9 to 11, T10N R3E; and sections 11, 12, 14, 19, T11N, R4E:

(1) During the firearm deer season, a person hunting deer under a valid permit may use any gauge of shotgun but shall use only single ball or rifle slug loads.

(2) Persons issued a hunting permit for deer shall return that permit to the check station immediately upon completion of the hunting period for which it was valid or upon termination of deer hunting, whichever occurs first.

(3) Permits are only valid for the hunting zone for which they are issued.

(4) It shall be unlawful to camp or attempt to camp on designated parking areas or on any lands posted "State Game Area - Hunting by Permit Only" from October 1 to January 1.

(5) A person shall not take or attempt to take an animal in the Shiawassee river state game area at any time without a permit issued by the St. Charles field office of the department of natural resources except for spring turkey hunting and the early goose season.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989; Am. 13, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Am. 13, 1998, Eff. Sept. 1, 1998; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sept. 1, 1999; Am. 15, 2000, Eff. Sept. 1, 2000; Am. 13, 2004, Eff. Aug. 14, 2004.

13.10 Fish Point wildlife area; rules.

Sec. 13.10. The following rules are established on those portions of the Fish Point wildlife area, Tuscola County, posted "State Game Area - Hunting By Permit Only" being all or portions of sections 9 to 16, T15N R8E; sections 19 to 23, T15N R8E; and sections 29 and 30, T15N R8E:

(1) No hunting of deer with bow and arrow or firearm during the waterfowl season.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

13.11 Allegan state game area, Highbanks, Fennville farm, and Bravo; additional rules.

Sec. 13.11. Within the Highbanks unit, being all or portions of sections 4, 5, and 9, T2N R14W, posted "State Game Area - Hunting by Permit Only" or "Wildlife Refuge - Do Not Enter"; within the Fennville farm unit, being all or portions of sections 5, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 30, T2N R15W; sections 12, 13, and 24, T2N R16W, posted "State Game Area - Hunting by Permit Only" or "Wildlife Refuge - Do Not Enter"; within the Bravo unit, being all of portions of sections 26, 27, 34, and 35, T2N R15W, posted "State Game Area - Hunting by Permit Only" or "Wildlife Refuge - Do Not Enter" the following rules are established:

(1) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, except single projectile loads.

(2) During the federal youth waterfowl hunting day(s) designated by the United States fish and wildlife service, the management unit supervisor or their representative, at their discretion, may permit waterfowl hunting by properly licensed youth 10 to 15 years of age accompanied by parent or a guardian.

(3) During a day designated by the management unit supervisor or their representative as "Youth Day," only hunting parties made up of one to four youths, 10 to 16 years old, with appropriate licenses and stamps, accompanied by a parent or guardian will be included in the daily drawing. Only youths will be permitted to hunt.

(4) A current hunting license and appropriate stamps shall constitute a valid permit to hunt in the non-refuge areas when the area goose season is closed, except as specified in 13.11 (9) and on designated days the management unit supervisor or their representative may suspend hunting for all animals in specified areas and allow hunting only under authority of a validated party registration hunting permit.

(5) The management unit supervisor or their representative, at their discretion, during the appropriate hunting season may allow hunting on designated dates within the areas posted "Wildlife Refuge – Do Not Enter" through a random drawing under the authority of a validated daily party registration hunting permit.

(6) On days designated by the management unit supervisor or their representative, during the deer hunting season, refuge deer hunting permits and non-refuge deer hunting permits may be issued to persons chosen in random drawings from applicants for different hunting periods. Permits shall not be transferred or altered.

(7) Deer hunting under the authority of a validated party registration hunting permit issued through a drawing may occur from opening hour until 12 noon, for antlerless deer only, on the dates designated by the management unit supervisor or their representative.

(8) No person shall possess a dog or use a dog for hunting in Fennville farm unit zones 2-7 or in the portion of zone 8 located in sections 18 and 19 of T2N R15W (Clyde township).

(9) On the Fennville farm unit Zones 2 – 8, all hunting shall be closed for seven days prior to the opening of the area goose season.

(10) During area goose season:

(a) In the Fennville farm unit zones 2-8, bravo unit, and Highbanks shooting posts, goose and duck hunting only is allowed from opening hour to 2 p.m., except that on youth day, goose and duck hunting shall be from opening hour to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to closing hour. Small game, duck, and archery deer hunting are allowed after 3 p.m., daily, except for youth day.

(b) The management unit supervisor or their representative may issue permits for afternoon duck and goose hunts on the Fennville farm unit from 1 p.m. to closing hour and the Highbanks refuge at their discretion.

(c) A validated party registration hunting permit issued through a daily drawing is required to hunt waterfowl from opening hour to 2 p.m. within the Highbanks unit and Fennville farm Zones 2-8. The hunting party leader shall be the adult whose name appears first on this permit. The party leader must maintain this permit in possession while on the area. The party leader must provide information as required on the permit and return the permit as prescribed in the area hunting and use rules. Under daily permit, the maximum party size is limited to six hunters at the Fennville farm unit and three hunters at the Highbanks and Bravo Units.

(d) A free seasonal managed area hunting record permit is required to hunt the Bravo unit, farm zones 1, 9, and 10, farm zones 2 through 8 from 3 p.m. to closing hour, daily and when hunting species other than geese in the Highbanks unit.

(e) Small game, duck, and archery deer hunting are allowed in Fennville farm zones 1, 9, and 10 from opening hour to closing hour, daily and in Fennville farm zones 2 through 8 from 3 p.m. to closing hour, daily, except for youth day.

(f) While goose hunting under authority of a validated party registration hunting permit at the Fennville farm and Highbanks units, or while waterfowl hunting at Bravo, no person shall have in their possession or fire from their shotgun more than 12 shot shells or possess shot size larger than BBB.

(g) Unless otherwise stipulated by permit, all goose hunting closes at 2:00 p.m. daily, except on a day(s) designated as Youth Day.

(h) No hunting of deer with firearms is permitted within the Fennville Farm Unit.

(i) Waterfowl hunters at the Highbanks and Bravo shooting posts shall remain within 25 feet of the assigned blind/post and shall not leave the assigned area, except to retrieve downed game, until completion of the hunt. If a person leaves the assigned area, except to retrieve downed game, the person shall not resume goose hunting in the Highbanks or Bravo unit that same day.

(j) The management unit supervisor, at their discretion, may restrict the manner of taking ducks and may issue permits for the taking of ducks.

(k) Refuge deer hunters shall remain within 25 feet of their assigned post/blind and shall not leave the assigned area, except to track and retrieve downed game; upon leaving their assigned post/blind, the person shall not resume deer hunting in the refuge that same day.

(l) Non-refuge deer hunters hunting under the authority of a daily hunting permit must hunt from within the corn-strips included within the assigned location, except to track and retrieve downed game.

History: Eff. Mar. 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Am. 14, 1991, Eff. Sept. 1, 1991; Am. 17, 1991, Eff. Jan. 1, 1992; Am. 17, 1993, Eff. Sept. 1, 1993; Am. 11, 1994, Eff. Sept. 1, 1994; Am. 8, 1995, Eff. Sept. 1, 1995; Am. 14, 1996, Eff. Sept. 1, 1996; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Am. 9, 1998, Eff. Sept. 1, 1998; Am. 13, 1998, Eff. Sept. 1, 1998; Am. 8, 1999, Eff. Sept. 1, 1999; Am. 15, 2000, Eff. Sept. 1, 2000; Am. 13, 2001, Eff. Sept. 1, 2001; Am. 11, 2002, Eff. Sept. 1, 2002; Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sept. 11, 2004; Am. 13, 2005, Eff. July 8, 2005; Am. 9, 2006, Eff. July 7, 2006; Am. 16, 2006, Eff. Aug. 11, 2006.

13.11a Ottawa marsh unit; additional rules.

Sec. 13.11a. Within the Ottawa marsh unit, being all or portions of the state-owned lands and waters which are bounded on the north by the Kalamazoo river, on the south and west by the bottom of the bluff, and the pipeline right-of-way on the southeast, in sections 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27, T3N R15W, and sections 29 and 30, T3N R14W, the following rules are established:

(1) During the waterfowl season, the hunting hours for all migratory birds shall be from opening hour to 3:00 p.m. each day.

(2) Blinds erected or constructed for purpose of hunting must be removed daily.

(3) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, except single projectile loads.

History: Am. 13, 2005, Eff. July 8, 2005; Am. 9, 2006, Eff. July 7, 2006

13.12 Wigwam bay state wildlife area, east unit; additional rule.

Sec. 13.12. Within the diked area of the east unit of the Wigwam Bay State Wildlife Area located in sections 4 to 5, T18N R6E; and sections 32 to 33, T19N R6E, Arenac county, it is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History Note: Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sept. 11, 2004.

13.13 Baraga plains wildlife area; additional rules.

Sec. 13.13. The following rules are established on those portions of the Baraga plains wildlife area, Baraga county, being all or portions of sections 3 to 10, 15 to 22, 27 to 28, and 30 to 33, T49N R34W:

(1) Goose decoys shall not be placed on any lands or waters prior to the opening day of the goose season.

(2) Goose decoys shall not be left set out overnight.

History: Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990.

13.14 Sturgeon river sloughs wildlife area; additional rules.

Sec. 13.14. The following rules are established on those portions of the Sturgeon river sloughs wildlife area, Houghton and Baraga counties, being all or portions of sections 3 to 6, 9 to 10, 16 to 17, and 19 to 21, T52N R33W; section 1, T52N R34W; sections 1 to 4, 9 to 10, 16, 20 to 21, 24 to 26, 28 to 29, and 31 to 33, T53N R33W; and sections 33 to 34, T54N R33W:

(1) Goose decoys shall not be placed on any lands or waters prior to the opening day of the goose season.

(2) Goose decoys shall not be left set out overnight.

History: Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sept. 1, 1990.

13.15 Repealed; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sept. 1, 1999.